Chapter 1

When I was little I remember my mom telling me about the moon Goddess. She had said the moon Goddess was the one who looked out for us. My mom had said that I was exactly like her. Always curious but wise and intelligent all the same. If that was true then why was I locked up in a cage now? The moon Goddess was supposed to look out for my kind. The kind that run through the forest, hunt animals, and howl at the full moon. The moon Goddess had no name in my language but in human language she was called Luna.

I don't really remember being put into a cage, but I remember the events leading up to me blacking out. I was around seventeen moons, seventeen years in human years, when I had a fight with my father. My father was a strong grey wolf who was pack leader. No one disobeyed him. Well except me. I was the runt of the litter when my brother and sisters were born. I was also different. Instead of the usually grays and browns of my kind, I was white. Pure white, as white as snow falling from the sky in winter but my fur was soft and glossy even in the hard times when we had little food. Despite that my father called me an abomination. That had been the last straw for me.

I had been treated horribly by my kind ever since I was born. Even my own mother said I should not have lived. So in the middle of the night, with the moon Goddess shining down on me, I ran out of the camp and away from the only home I knew. My family didn't want me and I couldn't stand to be treated horribly anymore. I had heard warnings about outside the forest. About humans who killed us or would capture us for experiments. There were not many of my kind because of humans. So I knew I had to be careful, especially if I leave the forest, which I was planning to do. I was planning to explore the world and the human world. I could pass off for the creatures that the humans had. They were relatives of my kind but favored humans.

I didn't have to worry about getting food since I learned how to hunt at a young age. The only threats I would get is from another wolf, not from my pack, or the humans. Thankfully there were no wildcats in this forest. Other forests that I came across I would have to be careful. I decided I would start out running then slow down as I got to the edge of the forest. I noticed as I ran that the forest was quieter than normal. Where were all the nocturnal animals? When I heard a loud bang I skidded to a stop. My ears went flat as I crept forward. In the clearing I came across I smelled blood, deer, and two other things I never smelled before.

In the clearing I saw a couple of deer on the ground bleeding. I knew they were dead because they were not breathing. What caught my attention the most was two beings, or animals were standing next to the deer. The thing was they were standing on two legs. I stared at the weird animals, my thoughts slowly coming to me. When one of them raised a stick looking thing, I realized that they were humans. Humans were in the forest killing deer and who knows what else. No wonder the forest was so quiet.

I watched the humans from the shadows of the bushes hoping they would leave. They were looking at each other and I saw their lips moving. They were talking about something. My ears pricked up when I heard the word wolf. They were talking about my kind, wolves. I was curious now. All too soon, though, they turned and left, leaving the deer behind. I looked at the deer then at where the humans left. I hadn't eaten in days because my father never let me ate. The deer looked really good despite the way it had been killed. I crept forward, praying to the moon Goddess for the deer and myself. Just as I lowered my head to tear into the flesh another bang sounded and I jumped away. I looked up and saw the humans walking towards me with their sticks pointing at me.

I growled baring my teeth but they didn't stop coming at me. When one of them got close to me I launched myself at them and sank my teeth into their arm. The human yelled as I bit him and clawed at him. I was dimly aware of the human yelling at the other to do something. I let go of the human and yelped when I felt pain shear up my hind leg. I jumped back growling. I knew my back leg was bleeding but how I had gotten hurt was beyond me. The human raised his stick at me. The loud bang came from the stick and I collapsed on the ground as pain flared through my whole body. It felt like I was on fire. I whined and twisted as the humans walked over to me. My vision faded slightly and the last thing I saw was the humans standing over me.